

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of conducting an electronic online auction between a plurality of potential bidders, comprising:
 - (a) receiving a plurality of bids from bidders;
 - (b) ranking said bids in order of attractiveness; and
 - (c) for each bid, displaying the rank determined in [[step]] (b) to the bidder who made the bid.
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the ranking in (b) determines an ordinal rank for each bid that is displayed to the bidder in (c).
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein (b) comprises ranking bids in accordance with the price of the bids.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising transforming a bidder comparative bid parameter into a comparative bid parameter for the originator of the auction.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein (a) comprises receiving transformed bid information.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein (a) comprises receiving a bid price in a base currency, wherein said bid price is originally defined in a local currency of said first bidder.
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the rank to the bidder.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising (b) and (c) as new bids are received.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein (c) comprises displaying a tie rank to the bidder if the ranking in (b) results in a tie.

10-18. Cancelled

19. (Previously presented) A system for processing the bidding information in an electronic auction amongst a plurality of bidders, comprising:

- means for receiving a plurality of bids from bidders;
- means for ranking said bids in order of attractiveness; and
- for each bid, means for displaying the rank to the bidder who made the bid.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said means for ranking bids includes means for determining an ordinal rank for each bid that is displayed to the bidder.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said means for ranking bids includes means for ranking in accordance with the price of the bids.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising means for transforming a bidder comparative bid parameter into a comparative bid parameter for the originator of the auction.

23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said means for receiving bids includes means for transformed bid information.

24. (Currently amended) The system of claim 23, wherein said means for receiving bids comprises means for receiving a bid price in a base currency, wherein said bid price is originally defined in a local currency of said first bidder.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising means for

transmitting the rank to the bidder.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising means for receiving and ranking bids as new bids are received.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said means for displaying the rank comprises means for displaying a tie rank to the bidder if the ranking results in a tie.

28. (Currently amended) A method of conducting an electronic online auction between a buyer and a plurality of potential sellers, comprising:

- (a) receiving a plurality of bids from sellers;
- (b) for each bid, transforming the bid into a buyer comparative bid parameter;
- (c) ranking said bids in order of attractiveness based upon the buyer comparative bid parameter; and
- (d) for each bid, displaying the rank determined in step (c) to the seller who made the bid.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the ranking in (c) determines an ordinal rank for each bid that is displayed to the seller in (d).

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising repeating (b), (c) and (d) as new bids are received.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising rejecting a bid if the bid ranking determined in (b) results in a tied bid.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein (d) comprises displaying a tie rank to the seller if a new bid results in a tie rank.

33. (Previously presented) A system for processing bidding information in an electronic auction between a buyer and a plurality of potential sellers, comprising:

- means for receiving a plurality of bids from sellers;
- means for transforming each bid into a buyer comparative bid parameter;

means for ranking said bids in order of attractiveness based upon the buyer comparative bid parameter; and

means for displaying the ranking to the seller who made the bid.

34. (Previously presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the means for ranking determines an ordinal rank for each bid.

35. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, further comprising means for receiving, transforming and ranking each bid as new bids are received.

36. (Previously presented) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for rejecting a bid if a bid ranking results in a tie bid.

37. (Currently amended) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for displaying a tie rank to the seller if a new bid[[s]] results in a tie rank.